

Information bulletin



International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Pakistan: Cyclone PHET

Information bulletin n° 02

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7 June 2010

This bulletin is being issued for information only and reflects the current situation and details available at this time. The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies is not seeking funding or other assistance from donors for this operation. The Pakistan Red Crescent Society (PRCS) will, however, accept direct assistance to provide support to the affected population.

[<click here to view the map of the affected area, or here for detailed contact information>](#)

Tropical Cyclone PHET in the Arabian Sea hit the Oman coast on 4 June. In Pakistan, the cyclone hit the areas of Thatta and Bhanbor (Sindh). It

missed the coastal areas of Karachi. PRCS, along with the Provincial Disaster Management Authority, has immediately responded. The PRCS response and logistics teams have reached the affected areas and they are engaged in emergency evacuations, rapid assessment and relief provision. Medical teams from Kt Bander has been directed to reach affected areas, but heavy rainfall is impeding their progress. On an urgent request from local authorities, PRCS has been establishing a relief camp in Badin. PRCS plans to provide food and other emergency relief items at camp. Over the last 24 hours, the coastal areas of Baluchistan received heavy to very heavy rainfall accompanied with strong gusty winds. According to the local media, more than 7,000 people have been evacuated from different areas of Badin district (Sindh). The coastal areas of Sindh and Karachi city are also receiving torrent rainfall, flooding the low lying areas. Ten deaths have been reported in Karachi and numerous people injured. The PRCS disaster management cells in Baluchistan and Sindh are coordinating with the local government for every possible support in evacuation and establishment of relief camps. More rains with strong gusty winds are expected to hit the coastal areas of Baluchistan and Sindh over the next 36 hours.

The Situation

Tropical Cyclone PHET has hit the coastal areas of Sindh, including Badin and Thatta. The cyclone has missed the coastal areas of Karachi. It is likely to be associated with the storm surge of 2-4 metres along



Local inhabitants leave their homes ahead of cyclone PHET at Keti Bander (Sindh). Pakistan Red Crescent Society trained volunteers have been involved in the evacuation. Source: <http://photos.onepakistan.com/>

the Karachi coast and 3-5 metres along the Thatta coast. Under the influence of this system, heavy rainfall is occurring in Baluchistan, Sindh and Karachi. During last 24 hours, the average rainfall recorded in the coastal regions of Sindh and Baluchistan is as follows:

Sindh: Karachi Masroor 133 mm, Faisal Base 92 mm, Karachi Saddar 84 mm.

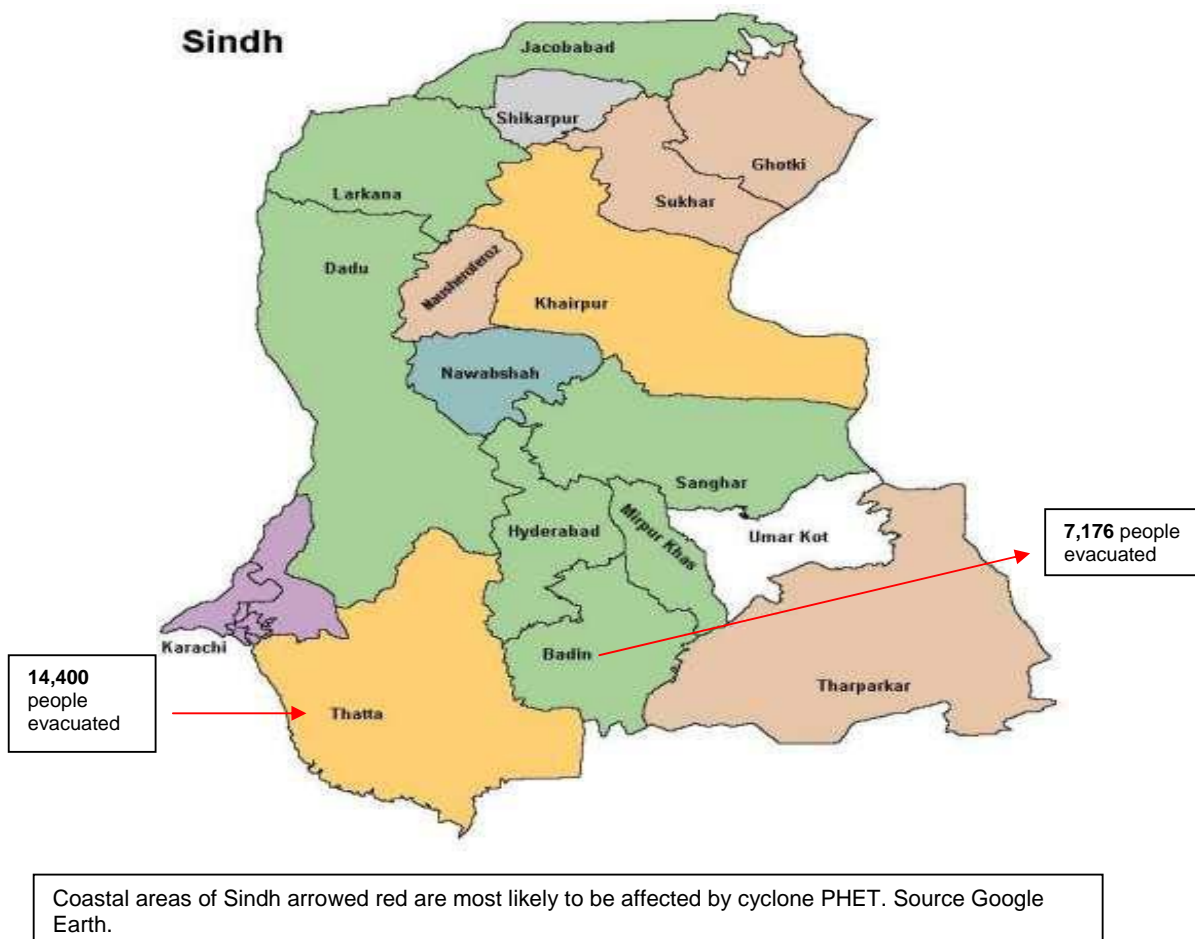
Baluchistan: Gawadar 370 mm, Jiwani 208 mm, Pasni 130 mm.

However, Sindh and Baluchistan are expected to receive more heavy to very heavy rainfall during the next 36 hours. The eastern coastal regions of Baluchistan may receive scattered rains, accompanied with gusty winds over the next 24 hours. Heavy rains may cause urban/flash flooding in Sindh, including Karachi. The Tropical Cyclone Warning Centre of the Pakistan Meteorological Department has warned the fishermen of Sindh and Baluchistan not to venture in the open sea until further orders. Irrigation authorities in Sindh are requested to reduce the inflow in the irrigation system.

Evacuation from the vulnerable villages has begun. According to the local media, more than 7,000 people have been evacuated from different villages of Badin.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

The Pakistan Red Crescent Society (PRCS) Sindh and Baluchistan provincial branches have established control rooms for the Cyclone PHET operation at the provincial headquarters. The control rooms have been working 24/7 from 1 June 2010 in order to stay in touch with the current situation and response teams in the field.



The international Federation disaster management coordinator was deployed to the Sindh provincial branch for needs assessment and development of a detailed operational plan of action for cyclone PHET

activities in Sindh. The PRCS Sindh provincial branch has been actively involved in the evacuation and early response activities. Disaster management officers at Badin and Thatta districts are in touch with the local authorities to get information and ensure possible support. The PRCS provincial disaster response teams are at high alert, to be deployed to the affected areas at any time.

The current status of disaster preparedness stock in Sindh distinguishing the required items is as follows:

Districts	Resources Analysis																	
	Tent		Blankets		TP-Sheets		Kitchen Sets		Stoves		J Cane		Hygiene Kits		H Lamp		Mosquito Net	
	A	R	A	R	A	R	A	R	A	R	A	R	A	R	A	R	A	R
Karachi	3,000	A	4,000	A	0	2,500	3,000	A	0	1,250	0	2,500	3,000	A	0	1,250	0	1,250
Thatta	200	450	2,800	A	0	1,300	200	450	0	650	0	1,300	200	450	0	650	0	650
Badin	200	550	2,800	A	0	1,500	200	550	0	750	0	1,500	200	550	0	750	0	750
Total	3,400	1,000*	9,600	A	0	5,300	3,400	1,000	0	2,650	0	5,300	3,400	1,000	0	2,650	0	2,650

(A= available; R= required)

PRCS has available stocks in other regional warehouses and is currently determining the extent of relief efforts of the government and other organizations in response to the cyclone.

In Thatta, 27 camps have been established, hosting 14,400 people. PRCS has placed two deep sea divers to handle any unforeseen situation. The PRCS teams in Thatta are working with the Pakistan navy and local government in the relief camps of Bandar and Jalbani. They have also evacuated some families from nearby islands. The provincial government has allocated schools to be used as relief camps. The current status of the five internally displaced people camps in Thatta is as follows;

S. no.	Location	No. of people
1	Kt Bander	1,000
2	Jaiti	25,00
3	Sajawal	Not known
4	Jambo Jalbani	2,000
5	Shah Bander	2,500

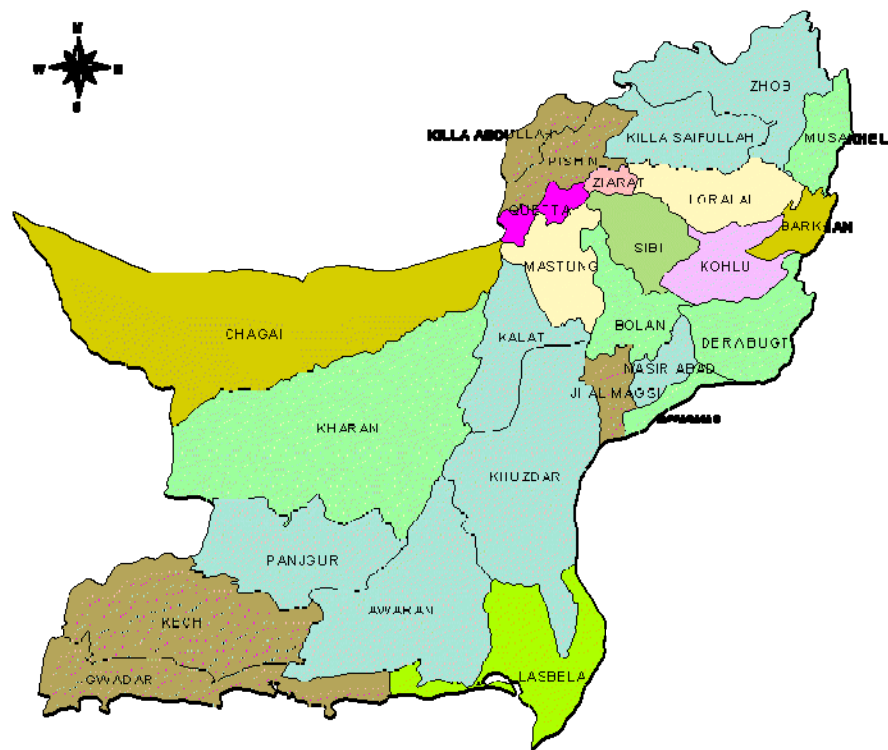
PRCS distributed 100 food packs and 50 tents in Kt Bander and one ambulance to the basic health unit in Thatta to support the district government in its relief efforts. The PRCS water expert has collected water samples from different relief camps to ensure the availability of safe drinking water for people residing in camps.

To date, 41 PRCS trained volunteers, with the support of the PRCS provincial branch staff, are working in the different affected areas of Thatta.

In Badin, 14 camps have been established, hosting 7,176 people. The total population of Badin expected to be affected is estimated to be around 8,000 people (source: provincial disaster management authority). On request of the district coordination officer, the PRCS provincial branch has released 50 tents to establish a relief camp in Sirani.

Another 100 tents and 120 food packs have been released by PRCS for the affected people in Zero Point (Badin). A total of 51 trained volunteers are working with the district government for the evacuation from vulnerable areas and providing relief support to the affected people in Badin.

A total of 35,000 people from the coastal areas of Karachi is most likely to be affected. The coastal areas consist of Kimari, Bin Qasim, Korangi, Baldia and Sadar town. Sixty trained volunteers of the emergency response teams are at disposal of Sindh provincial branch for any immediate support in the affected areas.



Map of Baluchistan, showing the affected areas. Source Google.

In Baluchistan, the following areas are at possible risk to be affected by cyclone PHET:

- **Gawadar:** (Population: 95,000)
- **Ormara:** (Population: 25,000; distance from Gawadar 285 km)
- **Jewani:** (Population: 22,000; distance from Gawadar 85 km)
- **Pisni:** [Kalimat, chur Bandar] (population: 45,000; distance from Gawadar 190 km)
- **Lasbela:** (Population: 312,917)

However, Gawadar and Labella are at high risk. In Gawadar, the local government is anticipating 18,700 people could be affected by cyclone PHET. The local media reported 40 villages have been flooded and the coastal highway at many points between Karachi and Gawadar has been washed away. Many people have been injured, but no deaths have been reported yet. The PRCS trained volunteers are working with the local government for evacuation and support in the affected areas. The PRCS mobile health teams with medicines are on standby to be deployed to the affected areas. PRCS will utilize 200 non-food items from its disaster preparedness stock for any immediate assistance.

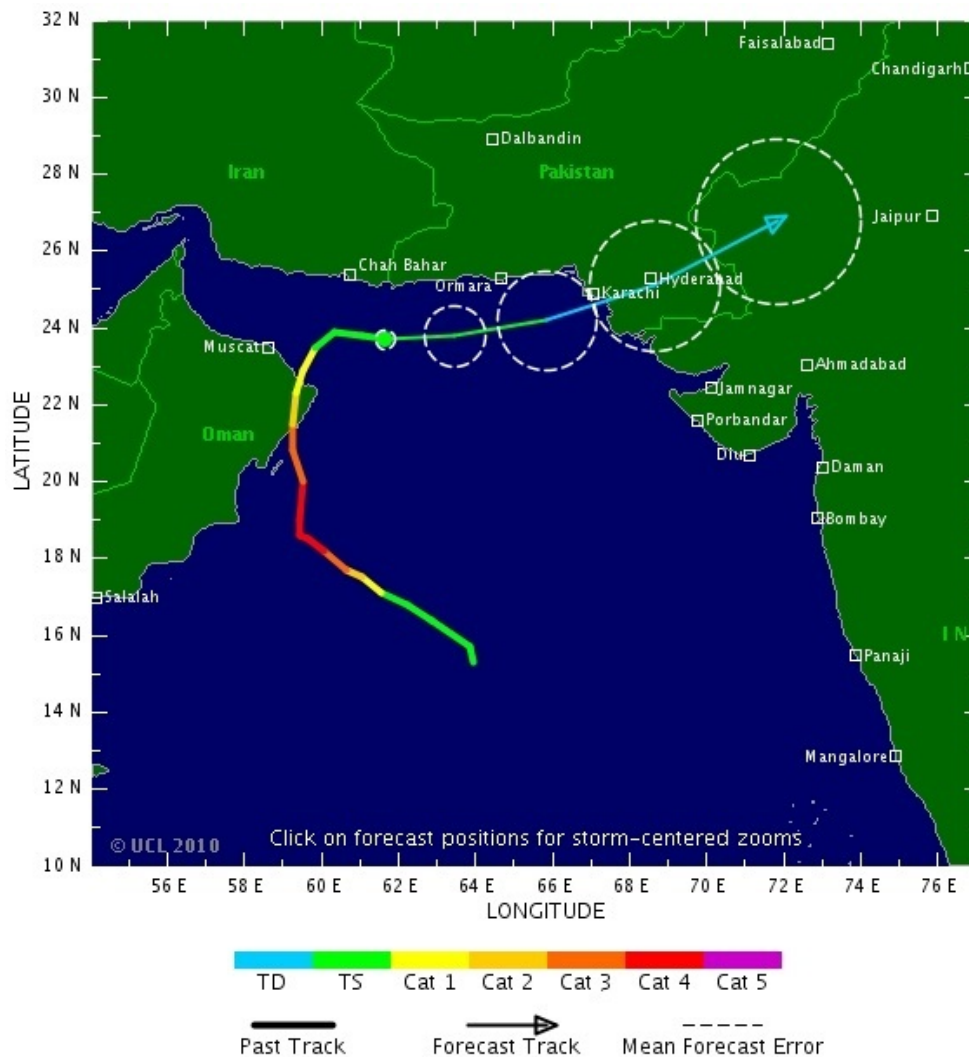
In Lasbela, the estimated population to be affected by cyclone PHET is 28,600 people. People are being shifted to the schools and colleges in Vander, declared as relief camps by the district government. The PRCS trained volunteers are actively involved with the local government in relief activities. The road access for many affected areas have been blocked, therefore relief support through helicopters is needed.

Coordination

The PRCS Sindh provincial branch is working in close coordination with the provincial disaster management authority (PDMA), Pakistan navy, district government and other agencies working in the affected areas. On the request of the district coordination officer (DCO) Badin, PRCS released 50 tents to

establish relief camp. On request of the local authorities, PRCS has been establishing a relief camp in Badin. The PRCS Sindh provincial branch attended a meeting with the PDMA where representatives from UNICEF, World Health Organization (WHO), World Food Programme (WFP), Ministry of Health and other non government organizations (NGOs) shared their preparedness plans.

The International Federation country office is working in close collaboration with PRCS, determining the extent of assistance to be provided to the affected population. The International Federation regional disaster preparedness delegate from the South Asia regional office is currently in Pakistan to provide support to the country office and PRCS. The partner national societies have also been keen to provide possible support to the national society.



Map showing Cyclone PHET track and its intensity with different colours. Source: UN One Response.

How we work

All International Federation assistance seeks to adhere to the [Code of Conduct for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and Non-Governmental Organizations \(NGO's\) in Disaster Relief](#) and is committed to the [Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response \(Sphere\)](#) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable.

The International Federation's activities are aligned with its Global Agenda, which sets out four broad goals to meet the Federation's mission to "improve the lives of vulnerable people by mobilizing the power of humanity".

Global Agenda Goals:

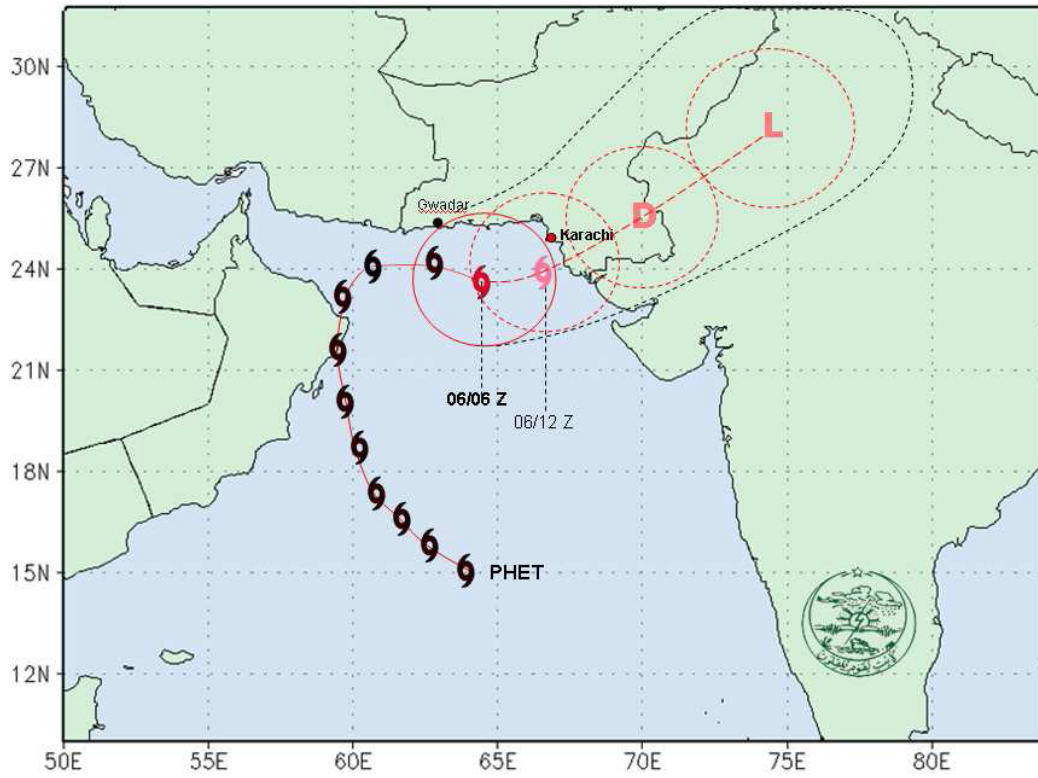
- Reduce the numbers of deaths, injuries and impact from disasters.
- Reduce the number of deaths, illnesses and impact from diseases and public health emergencies.
- Increase local community, civil society and Red Cross Red Crescent capacity to address the most urgent situations of vulnerability.
- Reduce intolerance, discrimination and social exclusion and promote respect for diversity and human dignity.

Contact information

For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:

- In Pakistan: Pakistan Red Crescent Society: Ilyas Khan, PRCS secretary general: phone 00 92 333 511 4223; email: sec.general@prcs.org.pk;
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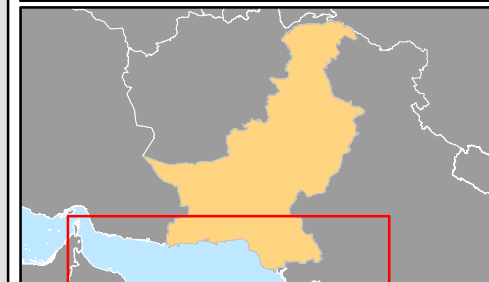
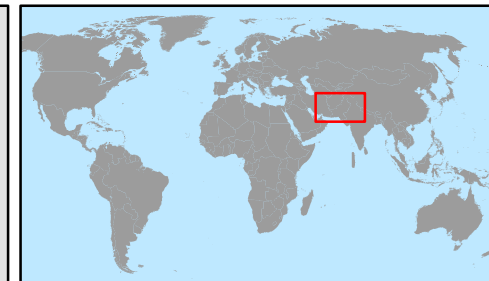
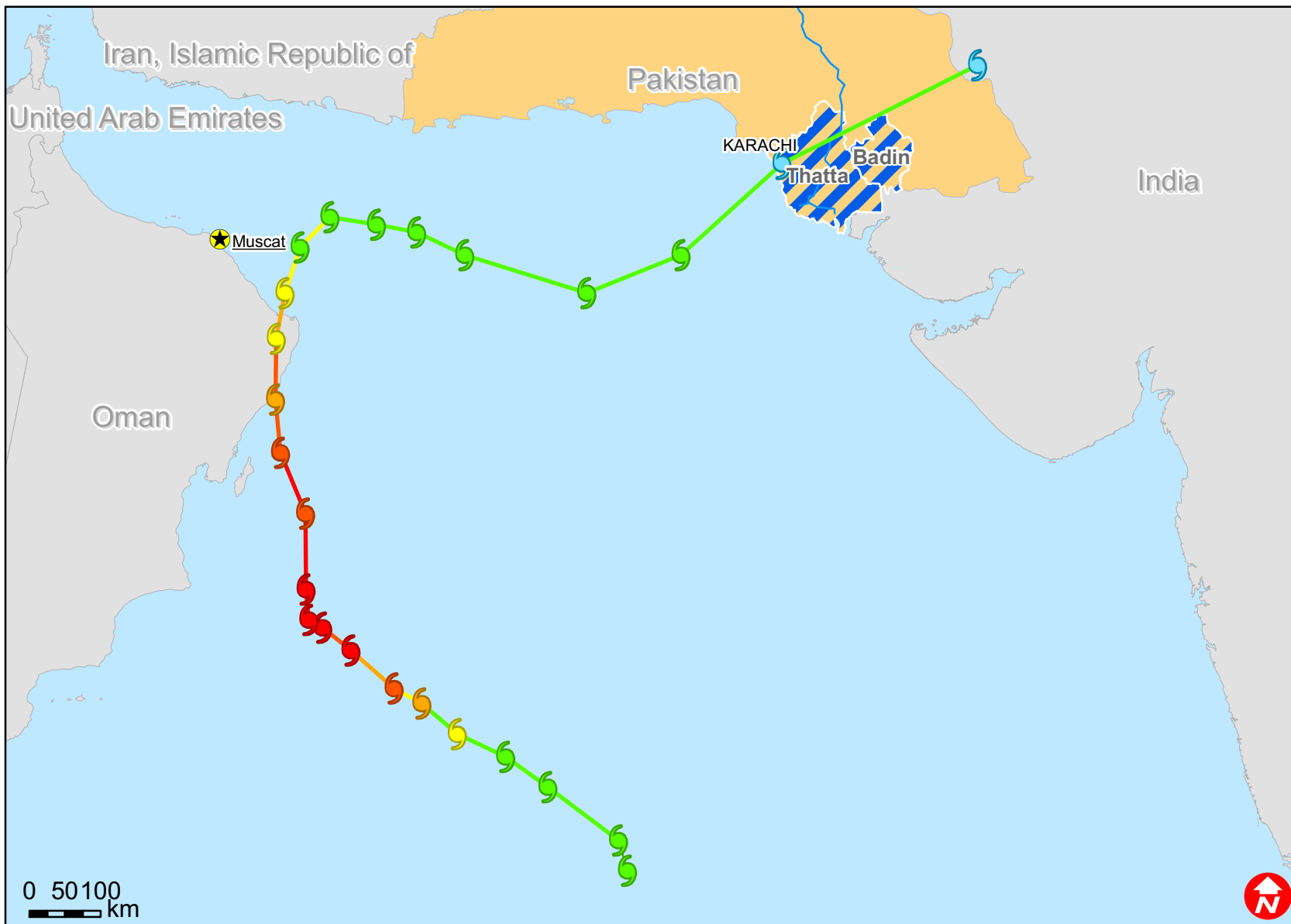
[<map below; click here to return to the title page>](#)



Map showing expected track of Cyclone PHET, identifying the coastal areas of Pakistan most likely to be hit. Over previous 24 hours the coastal areas of Sindh and Baluchistan received excessive rainfall. Source: metrological department of Pakistan.









Pakistan: Tropical cyclone Phet



Phet

Winds

-  CYCLONE-4
-  CYCLONE-3
-  CYCLONE-2
-  CYCLONE-1
-  TROPICAL STORM
-  TROPICAL DEPRESSION